GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:319
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003
DEVELOPMENT OF AYURVEDIC MEDICINES
BRAHMANAND MANDAL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the manufacturers of the Ayurvedic medicines in a conference held on February 13, 2003, in New Delhi expressed unhappiness about the attitude of the Government towards the development of Ayurvedic Medicines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the further steps, the Government propose to take for the development of Ayurvedic Medicines;

(d) the amount provided by the Government in the current financial year 2002-2003 for the development of Ayurvedic Medicines and the percentage thereof already spent; and

(e) the total value of turnover of Ayurvedic Medicines during the current financial year so far and the target set in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 319 FOR 12.3.2003

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government have taken a number of steps which will help development of Ayurvedic medicines. Schemes relating to augmenting supply of raw drugs; standardization of drugs & quality control; assistance to manufacturing units to upgrade infrastructure for attaining status of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and creating in-house testing facilities; use of modern technology and bio-technology; grant-in-aid schemes for participation of industry in fairs, exhibitions etc., and conducting market survey have been approved. A number of policy strategies have also been envisaged in the national Policy of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy, 2002, for the development of Ayurvedic Industry.

(d) In the Annual Plan 2002 - 2003, the budget allocation specifically for quality control, standardization, assistance for GMP status, availability of raw materials etc., is around Rs. 26.90 Crore. Since these schemes have very recently been sanctioned, Rs. 15.72 Crore has been approved for expenditure till date.

(e) The Government do not have authentic data about the turn over of Ayurvedic medicine. However, according to Ayurvedic Drug Manufacturers Association, the annual turn over of Ayurvedic medicine is in the region of about Rs. 3500 Crore.